In The Specification

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 15 of page 3 with the following amended paragraph:

Providing a means for containing and securing the stent or other medical device on the balloon catheter prior to inflation is but one problem facing stent delivery systems. An additional concern is the shifting or sliding of the stent relative to the balloon during balloon expansion. Numerous attempts have been made to reduce or prevent translocation of the stent on the balloon during balloon expansion. For example: copending U.S. Patent Application 09/667,916, filed September 22, 2000 and entitled *Coated Stents with Better Gripping Ability*, describes a stent coating which provides the stent with improved ability to adhere to the balloon during the expansion process. Another example is U.S. 5,836,965 which describes a process wherein a balloon is expanded and heat set then allowed to cool in order to adhere the balloon to the stent. Yet another example is co-pending U.S. Patent Application 08/740,727, filed November 1, 1996, which issued as U.S. 6,306,144 and is entitled *Selective Coating Of A Balloon Catheter With Lubricous Material For Stent Deployment*, which describes a balloon having a tacky coating for securing a stent to a balloon prior to delivery.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 17 of page 6 with the following amended paragraph:

As is know to those of skill in the art, when a medical balloon of catheter is in the unexpanded state, the balloon will typically include one or more folds. The folded configuration of the balloon provides numerous benefits to the catheter device. An example of a folded balloon is described in U.S. Pat. App. 09/335,361, filed June 17, 1999, which issued as U.S. 6,280,412 and is entitled *Stent Securement By Balloon Modification*, the entire contents of which being incorporated herein by reference. The balloon 12 depicted in FIG. 1 is shown in a partially inflated state wherein the balloon 12 has unfolded by an internal inflation pressure of about 1 to about 2 atmospheres. Despite, being "unfolded", the balloon 12 as shown in FIG. 1 is referred to

herein as being in an unexpanded or non-inflated state. In the non-inflated state, the central portion 26 has a diameter 32 which is greater than the diameters 34 and 36 of the respective end portions 28 and 30. The central portion 26 will have a diameter 32 which is between about 0.1 to 0.25 mm greater than the diameters 34 and 36 of the respective end portions 28 and 30.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 1 of page 8 with the following amended paragraph:

When the balloon 12 is inflated such as is shown in FIG. 2, the stent 38 expands to the expanded state. As the stent 38 expands, the sleeves 40 are retracted off of the stent ends 46 and 48. Stent retaining sleeves 40 may be configured to have a variety of retraction characteristics or modes. For example, the sleeves 40 may be configured to merely pull back off of the end 46 and 48 of the stent 38. Alternatively, the sleeves 40 or a portion thereof, such as the stent retaining portion 42, may be configured to fully retract off of the stent 38 as well as the cones 16 and 18 such as is shown. Where the sleeves 40 are constructed to retract off of the stent 38, they may be retracted by providing the sleeves 40 with a retraction mode such as the "S-mode" shown in FIG. 2. Other types of retraction characteristics are also described in co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/407836, filed September 28, 1999, which issued as U.S. 6,478,814 and is entitled *Stent Securement Sleeves and Optional Coatings and Methods of Use*, the entire content of which being incorporated herein by reference.